

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1-49. (Cancelled)

50. (Currently Amended) A substantially pure nucleic acid ~~encoding a baculovirus inhibitor of apoptosis-repeat (BIR) domain~~, said nucleic acid comprising a sequence selected from the group consisting of ~~SEQ ID NO: 45, SEQ ID NO: 46, SEQ ID NO: 47, SEQ ID NO: 49, SEQ ID NO: 50, and SEQ ID NO: 51, SEQ ID NO: 53, SEQ ID NO: 54, SEQ ID NO: 55, SEQ ID NO: 57, SEQ ID NO: 58, SEQ ID NO: 59, SEQ ID NO: 61, SEQ ID NO: 62, SEQ ID NO: 63, SEQ ID NO: 65, SEQ ID NO: 66, and SEQ ID NO: 67.~~

51-78. (Cancelled)

79. (New) A vector comprising a nucleic acid, said nucleic acid comprising a sequence selected from SEQ ID NO: 47 and SEQ ID NO: 51.

80. (New) The vector of claim 79, wherein said vector is an expression vector.

81. (New) A cell expressing a recombinant nucleic acid comprising a sequence selected from SEQ ID NO: 47 and SEQ ID NO: 51.

82. (New) The cell of claim 81, wherein said cell is a mammalian cell, a yeast cell, or a bacterial cell.

83. (New) A cell containing a vector comprising a nucleic acid, said nucleic acid comprising a sequence selected from SEQ ID NO: 47 and SEQ ID NO: 51.

84. (New) The cell of claim 80, wherein said vector is an expression vector.

85. (New) A substantially pure nucleic acid comprising a sequence encoding a BIR domain having the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 24 or SEQ ID NO: 25.

86. (New) A vector comprising a nucleic acid encoding a BIR domain comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 24 or SEQ ID NO: 25.

87. (New) The vector of claim 86, wherein said vector is an expression vector.

88. (New) A cell expressing a recombinant nucleic acid consisting of a sequence encoding a BIR domain comprising the sequence of SEQ ID NO: 24 or SEQ ID NO: 25.

89. (New) The cell of claim 88, wherein said cell is a mammalian cell, a yeast cell, or a bacterial cell.